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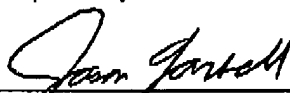
## REMARKS

Claims 30-49 are canceled and new claims 50-67 are presented. The new claims are supported by the specification and claims as originally filled, including, *inter alia*, at page 13, lines 22-28 and page 16, lines 5-20 (describing deletions at positions specified in the claims) and page 15, line 9 to line 25 (describing substitutions of a cysteine at positions equivalent to positions 349 and 428 in SEQ ID NO:3), and page 25, line 17 to page 28, line 13 (describing processes for making the alpha-amylase enzymes of the present invention, DNA constructs having DNA sequences encoding the alpha-amylase enzyme of the present invention, recombinant expression vectors carrying DNA constructs having DNA sequences encoding the alpha-amylase enzyme of the present invention, and cells transformed with the recombinant expression vectors and DNA constructs of the present invention). There is no new matter added, and entry of the amendment is therefore respectfully requested.

The Examiner is hereby invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if there are any questions concerning this amendment or application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 13, 2001

  
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